

Message

From: Harrington, Jim (DEC) [jim.harrington@dec.ny.gov]
Sent: 7/7/2016 2:09:10 PM
To: Garbarini, Doug [Garbarini.Doug@epa.gov]
Subject: RE:

Don't really know – there is current interest in getting the report out from people up the chain but whether that will result in it coming out is well beyond me. Jim H

James B Harrington, PE
Director, Remedial Bureau A
Division of Environmental Remediation
518 -402-9624

Please note my new email address
Jim.Harrington@dec.ny.gov

From: Garbarini, Doug [mailto:Garbarini.Doug@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2016 9:43 AM
To: Harrington, Jim (DEC) <jim.harrington@dec.ny.gov>
Subject: RE:

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Thanks

How accurate is the “about to issue” in the following excerpt from the article?

The DEC is about to issue a report on how to stop the leading edge of the plume from traveling any farther south, a report required by legislation sponsored by Assemb. Joseph Saladino (R-Massapequa)

From: Harrington, Jim (DEC) [mailto:jim.harrington@dec.ny.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2016 9:38 AM
To: Garbarini, Doug <Garbarini.Doug@epa.gov>
Subject: FW:

James B Harrington, PE
Director, Remedial Bureau A
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Please note my new email address
Jim.Harrington@dec.ny.gov

From: Harrington, Jim (DEC)
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2016 12:30 PM
To: 'DeFranco, Joseph' <JDeFranco@nassaucountyny.gov>
Subject: RE:

Thanks – nice to get positive press once in a while

James B Harrington, PE
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Please note my new email address
Jim.Harrington@dec.ny.gov

From: DeFranco, Joseph [<mailto:JDeFranco@nassaucountyny.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2016 9:48 AM
To: Karpinski, Steven (HEALTH) <steven.karpinski@health.ny.gov>; Bethoney, Charlotte M. (HEALTH) <charlotte.bethoney@health.ny.gov>
Cc: Scharf, Steven (DEC) <steven.scharf@dec.ny.gov>; Swartwout, John (DEC) <john.swartwout@dec.ny.gov>; Harrington, Jim (DEC) <jim.harrington@dec.ny.gov>
Subject:

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<http://www.newsday.com/opinion/editorial/finally-some-progress-on-bethpage-toxic-plume-1.12003154>Reprints

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Finally some progress on Bethpage toxic plume

July 5, 2016 By The Editorial Board



Senator Charles E. Schumer points to a map of the current plume in Nassau County, while calling on the U.S. Navy and Northrop Grumman to share data from their monitoring wells with all affected Long Island Water Districts at the Massapequa Water District Pump Station, Monday, Jan. 25, 2016. (Credit: Steve Pfost)

In its recent meeting with Bethpage residents, Northrop Grumman officials wanted to explain its efforts to address the awful underground plume there. Officials used words like “expedited” and “aggressive.”

We’re not kidding. Northrop Grumman has been uncooperative and reluctant to accept its responsibility to clean up the mess it bequeathed Long Island. But now, finally, it is acting.

The company is promising to drill three wells, pipe the water to a new treatment plant it will build, and do so by the end of 2017 in order to remove trichloroethene and other volatile organic compounds from the part of the plume emanating from Bethpage Community Park.

This is a positive development in a scandal with few such moments, and credit must be given.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation under new commissioner Basil Seggos pressured Northrop Grumman and the Navy to put plans into action and stay on schedule. Seggos attended a Bethpage Water District board meeting this spring and promised the agency would remain committed. It has.

The office of Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo has been involved since the debacle in Flint, Michigan, burst into the nation’s consciousness in January. The DEC is about to issue a report on how to stop the leading edge of the plume from traveling any farther south, a report required by legislation sponsored by Assemb. Joseph Saladino (R-Massapequa). With the Navy planning its own treatment program for the western side of the plume, there clearly has been a change in the dynamic. At long last.

Seggos, Cuomo and Saladino have done well. Now they need to keep the heat turned up high, so what looks like progress doesn’t become only a vision.